

A Work Session of the Town Board of the Town of Clarence was held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at Clarence Town Hall, One Town Place, Clarence, New York.

Supervisor David Hartzell called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Members of the Town Board present were Councilmember's Bernard Kolber, Patrick Casilio, Peter DiCostanzo and Robert Geiger. Other Town Officials present were Junior Planner Jonathan Bleuer, Highway Superintendent James Dussing, Town Attorney Lawrence Meckler, Town Engineer Tim Lavocat and Director of Administration and Finance Pamela CuvIELLO.

### **Town Engineer Tim Lavocat**

Mr. Lavocat wanted to bring the Board up to date on the Police/Court Facilities Project. Anthony Gorski and Anne Dafchik from Kideney Architects were introduced along with Kenneth Pearl, the Design Manager/Construction Manager on the project. Over the last several months, there have been extensive meetings with the NYS Police, Erie County Sheriff's, Town Justices and Court personnel all in an effort to get to the point we are today. A preliminary site plan/floor/design plan was devised in early summer and sent off to the estimators. The estimate came back in July over budget. From July to today, they met with all the stakeholders (NYS Police, EC Sheriff and Justice Court Personnel) again to come up with more efficiencies in the construction type, HVAC systems, shared spaces etc. With these changes, a second estimate was resubmitted. That estimate was received back on Monday. That estimate based on the plans being presented today brings us more in line with our targeted budget.

Two significant items at this phase in the project that were looked at is the construction type and the HVAC System. Initially the building design was to be constructed of a masonry-steel construction however in the plan presented today, the project is designed with a wood framed structure with brick veneer. The HVAC System was reconfigured as well to realize a substantial savings bringing us closer to the targeted budget figure

Anthony Gorski and Anne Dafchik gave a presentation of the proposed Police/Court Facilities building. Mr. Gorski stated that with these type projects you start with the programming phase and then the schematic phase. The first estimate that they received is based on a schematic set which is an initial shot of the floor plan, elevations and written descriptions. Since they were over budget, they revised the plan. Anne Dafchik walked the Board through the site plan presented. The new building will occupy an area between the town hall and the baseball diamond. Public parking will be to the front of the building. The NYS Police will have an access road that will connect to the Town Hall campus road, staff parking will be to the back of the building. There is an option for more parking spaces in the future if needed. Staff entrances are in the rear of the building. Three major entities will utilize the building. Detainees will be brought in through the back of the building and will be separated from the judges, clerks and the public. Access to the building is limited and controlled, so people are not wandering around the building. The NYS Police is a separate entity, they will be separated, isolated and secure. A potential rendering of the building was presented. The brick has not been selected yet but it will complement the existing town hall and library. Most of the building has a slopped roof with the exception of the piece over the court staff wing and the mechanical area to the back of the building. Clearstory windows will be placed along the roof to allow for natural light in the waiting area.

The metal detector is located in the front entrance of the building, Town Attorney Meckler questioned whether there was a way for people to enter the building through the exit to avoid the metal detector. Anne Dafchik stated that this will be a staffing issue. Town Engineer Lavocat stated that the Sheriff's vestibule is going to be located there and there is a line of site from this area to the exit. This will be addressed with staff and security

personnel inside the building. There will be a window in the lobby area for people to pay traffic fines so there is no need for anyone to get further into the building, it is controlled. The front of the court bench is bullet resistant.

The entire building will be sprinklered. Security cameras will be placed both inside and outside the building. The storm water lines will go out to the pond.

Kenneth Pearl said this building has to be built to Central Facility Code which means the structural features have to be stronger than normal (able to withstand tornado/hurricane).

With the roof surface, Councilman Kolber asked whether there were any incentives to use solar panels. Town Engineer Lavocat stated that once they get to the design phase, they will be meeting with NYSEDA to discuss any incentives they may have to offer however, they may not be able to accommodate our schedule.

The minimum amount of parking has been provided for with the option to expand if there is a need. The NYS Police need a dedicated entrance to their facility. The back parking lot will be secluded behind a large berm.

As a cost savings, Councilman Kolber asked if the Highway Department could do some of the road work. Those cost savings could be put into other things. Highway Superintendent Dussing stated that he is always willing to help out as long as it wasn't during spring and fall brush and leaf pickup.

With no objections from the Town Board, Town Engineer Lavocat will launch into the final design phase of the project which will be bid out in March or April 2016.

#### **Town Engineer Tim Lavocat – Main Street Sidewalk Project**

The Town received a grant for the Main Street sidewalk project. From Transit Road to Harris Hill Road is a replacement project with new 4-foot wide sidewalks from Harris Hill to Thompson Road on both sides. The Town was awarded that grant January 2014. Mr. Lavocat has met several times with the DOT and a design was introduced. During the meetings with the DOT, they have expressed an interest to add certain elements to this project. They are requesting all 5-foot wide sidewalks from Harris Hill Road to Thompson Road. They want all new sidewalks through driveways and parking lots (this was not part of the original application which the DOT approved). They are requesting ADA crosswalks at all intersections with pedestrian signals. All these additional items double the cost of the project. The DOT is aware of what they approved as far as the grant application and funding to the town and what our share it.

The DOT is willing to lobby for additional funds for this project to get it to their specifications. The Town submitted a grant application on Monday for the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) program for the demographics between Connection Drive and Thompson Road for additional 1-foot sidewalks. That application looks favorable for the DOT in lobbying for additional state funds. Now we have federal funds with a local match from the Town of Clarence. CDBG are federal funds administered by the County. The State is the only one not contributing to a project in their right of way and they are aware of that. They are looking to possibly fund the additions to this project and potentially take over the entire project after it is designed. This will mean the Town of Clarence does not have to be involved with the inspections or the administrative end of the project. None of this is set in stone, we are not guaranteed the CDBG funds or the DOT funding. With the money the town has in place today, we would be able to do rip out and replace sidewalks from Transit Road to Harris Hill Road on one side of Main Street. The DOT process for design is the town has to submit a design package with all these things in mind including the original grant. Essentially we have to bid alternates which means we have to prioritize. With the funds we have now, if we have to prioritize, Mr. Lavocat and his consultant is recommending we prioritize the south side

of Main Street (we have to pick a side, we cannot do both sides under the current arrangement). Hopefully the DOT takes over the project and both sides will be completed. Mr. Lavocat will go back to the DOT with our design proposal and the alternates with the south side of Main Street being the priority.

Supervisor Hartzell requested a 5 minute break from 9:50AM – 9:55AM

The Work Session resumed at 9:55AM.

#### **Highway Superintendent James Dussing**

There was a discussion at the October 28, 2015 Town Board meeting regarding the moratorium on memorial benches. Supervisor Hartzell put the moratorium in place several years ago however there have been numerous requests for benches. Jonathan Bleuer stated that this past summer his office did an inventory of the existing bike trails, they inventoried everything on the trails including signs, garbage cans and benches. That information was compiled and forwarded to Supervisor Hartzell.

Highway Superintendent Dussing said that there is a demand for benches, the number of bike paths has increased and there are plenty of areas to place them. Councilman Casilio suggested adding the arboretum to the list of locations to place a bench or purchase a tree in memory of a loved one. The cost of \$1,200 is a reasonable figure, it includes a concrete pad. Highway Superintendent Dussing stated that in the past, they did not include future maintenance into the price. Several of the older benches have been vandalized or became weathered and needed to be replaced.

Councilman DiCostanzo would like to give residents the option of placing the benches in other designated areas besides the bike path and suggested Memorial Park.

Jonathan Bleuer stated that there is a high concentration of benches near Meadow Lakes but that section of the path gets the most use whereas there are no benches along the West Shore Line.

Supervisor Hartzell stated that one thing that could help not load up the bike path would be to drop the price if a bench is placed in Memorial Park from \$1,200 to \$1,000 more people would be willing to place the bench in Memorial Park. The Town of Lancaster pushes this and manages to keep a lot of this type thing off their bike path. There is only so much space on the bike path.

Jonathan Bleuer suggested a clause indicting that the town would not be responsible for maintaining a bench several years down the road. Town Attorney Meckler stated that once the town installs a bench, we are automatically bound.

Superintendent Dussing suggested that a good contact and location information be kept on all memorials.

Supervisor Hartzell suggested a clause in the agreement stating that “benches are assigned at the discretion of the Town Board and may be removed at some point in the future.” He also said that people should be discouraged from putting other things on the memorial benches (teddy bears, balloons, flags etc.). Planter are nice but the town cannot maintain them. These things would have to be specified in the agreement. It is a bench, not a roadside memorial.

Councilman Kolber suggested designating areas in all town parks subject to Parks Crew Chief James Burkard approval.

Supervisor Hartzell suggested Superintendent Dussing revise the Memorial Bench agreement and submit it to the Town Board for review and approval.

Highway Superintendent Dussing said that he has six crews out picking up leaves. Goodrich Road is closed from Lapp Road to Tonawanda Creek Road. The crews are working on large diameter drainage pipes to equalize the water. The Town Wide Drainage Study is complete and will be presented to the Town Board in the near future. Goodrich Road from County to Lapp has binder and will be topped in the spring.

Councilman DiCostanzo asked if more staff would have to be hired to man the metal detector in the new Court Facilities building. Councilman Casilio stated that the Town of Clarence will be responsible for security in the new facility. When the Justice Court compiles their budget requests, this will have to be taken into consideration. It is the town's court facility so it will have to come out of the town's budget.

Councilman DiCostanzo invited Cub Scout Pack #568 – Webelos to the 6PM Work Session, they are working on their government badge.

There being no further business, the Work Session adjourned at 10:12 AM.

Darcy A. Snyder

Deputy Town Clerk